

# — TARGET LIBYA —

## The making of a scapegoat

*Vested interests in US intelligence and politics used extreme terror tactics to turn world public opinion against Libya in the 1980s.*

*But are their activities part of a much broader plan for global destabilisation?*

by David G. Guyatt ©1996

5 Mucking Hall Cottages  
Mucking Hall Road  
Barling Magna, Essex SS3 0NJ  
England, UK  
Phone/Fax: +44 (0)1702 217523

**T**he murder of WPC Fletcher in London, the bombing of La Belle Discothèque in Berlin, and the downing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie were the three outrageous 'terrorist' events that led to Libya being outcast by the international community. These atrocities are now revealed as yet further examples of the 'decade of tension' inspired by the West. The dirty tricks, resulting in hundreds of deaths, were artfully hatched in Washington and London under utmost secrecy.

### LOCKERBIE WHISTLEBLOWER SILENCED?

"It's an easy hit." The voice of Lester Coleman, former Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) operative and joint author of the explosive book *Trail of the Octopus*,<sup>1</sup> echoed hollowly down the line. Lester answered my question in a few simple words. I had asked him why the US continues blaming Libya's Colonel Qadhafi for all the woes of the world. Since his enforced 'exile', Lester has become something of an expert on Libya.

"Listen, David," he continued. "It's all domestic politics." Libyan skulduggery plays to the "rednecks" who inhabit middle America. Lester, an accomplished linguist, launched into a humorous backwoods drawl to emphasise his point. Most Americans believe anything they're told about "Ay-rabs", he said—particularly at politically sensitive times or during an election year. One reason, perhaps, why the US had threatened to use a nuclear weapon against Libya in the spring of 1996.

I was told this latter piece of gossip by Sir Teddy Taylor, Conservative Member of Parliament. Sir Teddy had consented to an interview to provide background on the assassination of WPC Yvonne Fletcher and also on the downing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland. The MP had a special interest in both cases. Somehow I had missed picking up the US nuclear threat on the news. When Sir Teddy mentioned it, my jaw dropped with a jowl-shuddering 'clunk'. I later confirmed the story with American media sources. In the event, it was just bluster.

The year 1996 has proved to be a peculiarly good one for Libya. For the second time in a decade, it got shunted into the political backwoods by presidential warlords. Instead, the mad ayatollahs of Iran took centre-stage as America's arch-demon in this election year.<sup>2</sup> But by all accounts it was touch-and-go whether Libya or Iran would be awarded the honour of the black boot this time around.

Les Coleman is the first DIA operative to have gone public and blown the whistle. His book blew the lid on the Lockerbie story. Because of his inside knowledge he was inundated with death threats from the intelligence community, so he fled with his family to Europe for safety. Originally given temporary political asylum in Sweden, two years later he was forced to move on. Most recently he was residing in Spain.

When I spoke to him, he was planning his return to the US after years of exile. Now penniless and unsettled, he spoke about his chances of arrest on an old charge of obtaining a passport in a false name—something he did under DIA instruction as a field operative. In any case, Les was hoping that the [then] forthcoming US presidential election might insulate him from prosecution, but he was going to return "home" no matter what. His family had understandably grown tired of their nomadic life and missed home.

Unsurprisingly, word of his imminent return to the US had leaked out. A short while before finalising his flight plans, he was attacked by four men and beaten to a pulp. He arrived in the US in a wheelchair on 17 October 1996, and was arrested and placed in custody on Federal charges.

The US edition of Coleman's book, due to be published by Signet Books, has now been suppressed. US distributors for Signet say the publication date is "postponed", possibly in perpetuity.

## CIA 'DESTABILISATION' OF LIBYA

Les Coleman was one of many people I spoke to in an attempt to get a clear understanding of the nonsensical US position on Libya. For the better part of 20 years, Libya—and its leader, Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi—has been hoisted atop America's most-hated-nation list. It was a form of political vilification that Europe didn't share—until the murder of Yvonne Fletcher (to which I shall return).

Upon taking power, the Reagan administration immediately commenced a bitter campaign against Qadhafi, principally under the guidance of Director of Central Intelligence, Bill Casey—a gruff, no-nonsense, financial street-fighter whose lack of political eloquence was matched by a well-used blackjack.<sup>3</sup> Casey had been Ronald Reagan's campaign manager and carried Reagan to victory on the back of the "October Surprise" issue of 1980. President Carter's re-election chances were dashed by the intransigence of both the Iranians and US officials who, unknown to him, had concluded a secret deal to delay the release of US hostages held by Tehran, in exchange for battlefield weapons. Reagan romped home to a landslide victory and immediately announced that the hostages would be released. It is now clear that Casey was one of the central architects who negotiated the deal with the Iranian ayatollahs.

A virulent pro-market anti-Communist, Casey shared his views with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher—a close personal friend. Thatcher was one of the few prime ministers who took an active interest in the machinations of the intelligence community. She went out of her way to attend Joint Intelligence Committee meetings and insisted on being regularly briefed. Her interest in these exotic areas may have been whetted by many of her ardent supporters, like Airey Neave, who possessed intelligence backgrounds.

Casey also had a 'thing' about Qadhafi, whom he saw as a low-life rebel-rouser who bankrolled the globe's terrorists. Along with other administration hard-liners, Casey set out to destabilise Libya and overthrow Qadhafi in true CIA fashion.

Within months of taking office, President Reagan authorised a battle fleet to sail along Libya's coastline. Announced to the media as a "naval exercise", the manoeuvre was designed to challenge Libya's recently declared sovereignty over the Gulf of Sidra—a move that extended Libya's territorial claims well beyond the internationally recognised 12-mile coastal boundary. Ordinarily, a territorial dispute of this nature would typically be subject to international diplomacy and discussion.

In the event, the Reagan administration saw it as a perfect excuse to buckle on the hip-holsters and start blasting away with a set of Texan six-guns. Qadhafi was about to get a taste Reagan's gung-ho, go-get-'em diplomacy—the first in a series of 'police actions' that were later to lead to the illegal invasions of Granada and Panama.

On 19 August 1981, two US Navy F-14 "Tomcats" patrolling 30 miles inside the disputed territorial waters were attacked by Libyan jets. In the melee that followed, two Libyan jets were shot down. [Note: Many researchers dispute that the Libyans attacked first. See additional comments in box on page 36. Ed.]

A delighted Ronald Reagan mimicked his old western-movie

days for the benefit of his close aides by drawing two imaginary six-guns and peppering an equally imaginary Qadhafi with bullets. It was pure *Boys' Own* stuff, but backed by multi-megaton muscles.

Over the following months, numerous intelligence briefings reported that Qadhafi had ordered a revenge attack against President Reagan and other high-level administration officials. Quickly shown to be unfounded, the fabricated report was traced to Manucher Ghorbanifar, a shadowy Iranian arms dealer who had helped to broker the arms-for-hostages deal. Despite this, the 'false' death threat gave Casey and other administration insiders the ammunition they needed to wage a protracted campaign against the Libyan leader.

By November 1981, a top secret National Security Planning Group, chaired by the President (who was known to sleep through Cabinet meetings), authorised planning for "a military response against Libya in the event of further Libyan attempts to assassinate American officials or attack US facilities." Soon drafted, the "Top Secret" memo, "Counter-terrorist planning towards Libya", recommended that the President "immediately direct the Joint Chiefs of Staff to ready assets to carry out military action against Libya in self-defense, following a further Libyan provocation." A number of retaliatory 'graduated' responses were planned. Out of the main five options, four centred on air strikes against Libyan targets.

Fear-stricken at these developments, Qadhafi reacted by sending an envoy to Washington, pleading that the whole thing was pure bunkum. The strategy proved successful—for the time being.

There followed an hiatus in US activity against Libya, as Casey focused most of the CIA's resources on the Nicaraguan situation. But Qadhafi was not to be forgotten. After a tour of European capitals in early 1984 (a US presidential election year), US officials seeking allied co-operation against Libya returned home in bleak mood.

The picture they presented of European attitudes to Qadhafi was not encouraging. The Libyan leader was generally well-regarded: he did a lot of business with Europe, he wasn't a fundamentalist, and a large number of European ex-pats lived and worked in Libya. Collectively, the Europeans wouldn't sanction US hostilities—hardly surprising when the bulk of Libya's crude oil (almost 80 per cent) is exported to Western Europe, principally Italy, Germany, Spain and France.<sup>4</sup>

With administration insiders concluding that Qadhafi would be just the 'ticket' leading to a Reagan victory at the upcoming election that November, something had to be done to modify European public opinion. Within months, 'fate' seemed to lend a helping hand.

## THE KILLING OF WPC FLETCHER

Woman Police Constable Yvonne Fletcher was on duty outside the London Libyan People's Bureau on 17 April 1984. Located in the fashionable and serene St James's Square, the Libyan Bureau building huddles in a corner of the square. Its address is No. 5. On that day, a hail of automatic gunfire disturbed the tranquillity, sending pigeons flying in all directions. The 11-round burst, fired by a 9-mm Sterling sub-machine-gun from the first floor of the Libyan building, felled a number of anti-Qadhafi demonstrators protesting outside. WPC Fletcher was killed outright.

**With administration insiders concluding that Qadhafi would be just the 'ticket' leading to a Reagan victory at the upcoming election that November, something had to be done to modify European public opinion.**

The slaying caused uproar and hit the headlines around the world. Condemned in the world's media and British Parliament, all Libyan diplomats were expelled by a furious Home Secretary. The only problem with the Home Secretary's understandable indignation was that the Libyan gunman didn't shoot Yvonne Fletcher.

The Fletcher killing occurred out of the blue, and singularly changed British political and public opinion overnight. Open season was declared on Qadhafi and Libya by the US and, most importantly, was supported by Britain. The rest of Europe kept silent and sulked, having been out-manoeuvred. With the aid of a single bullet, the Reagan administration's 'destabilisation' plan against Qadhafi was back on track.

#### DISCO INFERNO PROVOKES TROUBLE IN TRIPOLI

Eighteen months after Fletcher's assassination, 40 US warplanes screamed across the night sky above Tripoli and Benghazi. Of those, eight F-111 bombers had been launched from bases in East Anglia, England, with the blessing of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and a still-enraged British population. Each bomber carried four 2,000-pound laser-guided 'smart' bombs. In all, 32,000-pounds of high-explosive ordnance were explicitly targeted to kill Qadhafi. Miraculously, he escaped unhurt, but his fifteen-month-old daughter was killed and two adopted sons badly injured.

The Reagan administration loosed the warplanes on Libya following the bombing of La Belle Discothèque in West Berlin nine days earlier. One US serviceman and a young Turkish woman had been killed outright and 230 people injured. The disco was a known hangout for off-duty US servicemen.

President Reagan claimed he had irrefutable proof of Libyan sponsorship of the atrocity. Despite this claim, no evidence was ever submitted by the Reagan administration to support its allegations. A host of well-informed individuals and 'sources' doubts any proof ever existed—except in the fevered imagination of CIA boss, Bill Casey. Conservative MP Sir Teddy Taylor regards the American allegations as "total rubbish".

#### MEDIA REVELATIONS

In April 1996, Britain's Channel Four 'flagship' documentary programme *Dispatches*, in a massively researched broadcast, revealed that WPC Fletcher had been murdered by elements of British and American intelligence. The purpose of the slaying, as outlined earlier, was to 'shape' public opinion and, importantly, pre-empt parliamentary indignation for the later bombing of Tripoli by British-based US warplanes. Disgracefully, these astonishing revelations went unreported by the media.

The film, made by the highly regarded Fulcrum Productions, was the subject of a debate in the House of Commons on 8 May 1996. MPs Sir Teddy Taylor and Tam Dalyell demanded the government initiate a full inquiry. Responding for the government, Home Office Minister of State David Maclean described the *Dispatches* programme as "preposterous trash". In doing so, he called into question the reputations of leading ballistics experts and gunshot specialists—and carefully avoided reference to information provided to the documentary team by well-placed, and knowledgeable, intelligence sources. It was a white-knuckle

statement that hopefully, one day, will boomerang back on him.

Fulcrum learned that British and US intelligence had established a major surveillance post adjacent to the Libyan People's Bureau, at No. 8 St James's Square. This post had been 'active' for at least six weeks prior to the shooting, with up to 40 individual intelligence officers present—but on the morning of the shooting, the post was abandoned. Moreover, Fulcrum also learned that the demonstration outside the Libyan Bureau was phoney: the demonstrators belonged to a CIA front organisation.

Two additional facts were discovered. Firstly, British and American intelligence believed that Colonel Qadhafi had sanctioned his London Bureau to shoot at the demonstrators, as they had intercepted a 'secret' message granting authorisation. Secondly, the CIA and MI5 knew precisely the calibre of weapon to be used. Both intelligence agencies had 'penetrated' the Bureau and had Libyan 'sources' supplying information to them.

Crucially, Fulcrum Productions learned beyond doubt that the bullet that killed Fletcher had been fired from the upper floor of No. 8 St James's Square—the location of the surveillance post. Ballistics experts consulted by the documentary team confirmed the bullet's entry track to have come from No. 8.

The team also learned that the bullet was adapted to fire with "terminal velocity". This technique—a speciality of SAS 'shooters'—is achieved by removing some of the explosive propellant

from the cartridge. The result is a quieter shot, similar to using a silencer. A side-effect of a bullet fired in this manner is that it flies more slowly and 'tumbles' as it strikes the target, wreaking havoc as it rips through soft tissue. In every respect it is a 'killer' shot, where chances of survival are so slim as to be negligible. The information on the bullet's terminal-velocity characteristics was also confirmed by independent experts.

**In April 1996, Britain's Channel Four 'flagship' documentary programme *Dispatches*, in a massively researched broadcast, revealed that WPC Fletcher had been murdered by elements of British and American intelligence.**

#### A CYNICAL SECRET CABAL

A well-placed and reliable 'source', interviewed by this writer, explained why WPC Fletcher was targeted. Intelligence operatives believed Qadhafi had authorised a 'hitman' to let loose with a Sterling automatic weapon against CIA-funded demonstrators gathering outside Libya's London Bureau. This information was gleaned with the aid of signals intelligence (SIGINT) intercepts and human intelligence (HUMINT) sources inside the Bureau itself.

The great worry amongst the secret cabal who planned the assassination was that the random killing of Arab protesters would not be sufficient to force the British Home Secretary to expel all Libyan diplomats. It was argued that targeting a British "Bobby", especially a policewoman, would do the trick. Such appalling cynicism is the handmaiden to the intelligence community as well as heartless politicians who believe the end justifies the means.

The 'source' also explained that it was an "off the books" hit, and that "elements" inside the British and American intelligence communities were "out of control". But the suspicion remains that someone with power and influence gave 'a nod and a wink' to the operation. It is just not credible to suppose otherwise.

The key to this convoluted reasoning was the cabal's fear that the Home Secretary, Leon Brittan, would not act as required without immense public and political pressure to jog him along. This

[NEXUS submitted this article prior to publication to the Libyan Arab Cultural Centre in Melbourne, Australia. They had these points to add. Ed.]

#### Re: THE GULF OF SIRTE (SIDRA) INCIDENT

The events of August 1981 should also be considered in the light of previous US actions. An analysis of US foreign policy under the Reagan administration, entitled *From El Salvador to the Libyan Jamahiriya* (published by Third World Reports, UK), states:

"In a move seemed designed to raise tensions in the Middle East, and perhaps to provoke a Libyan military response to justify a joint US/Egyptian invasion of the *Jamahiriya*, units of the US Sixth Fleet violated Libyan sea and air space on four consecutive days from 10 March 1981. Involved were two aircraft carriers, ten other military vessels and several squadrons of carrier-borne F-14 fighters.

"The Libyans have been careful to avoid a military response to the American provocations, but the entry of American planes and shipping into Libyan territory could easily have provoked a response from the Libyan air force were the *Jamahiriya* not concerned with avoiding a major pretext for US intervention and a serious confrontation in the region.

"The March incidents are not the first time that the United States has attempted to provoke the Libyans into a response. In September 1980, Washington admitted that it had sent spy planes to the very edges of Libyan airspace. The *International Herald Tribune* referred to two confrontations in less than a week, involving a C-135 plane escorted by an F-14 fighter 'armed with Phoenix air-to-air missiles'. According to the report, an additional two Navy F-14 planes were launched from the John F. Kennedy aircraft carrier when Libyan planes intercepted the Americans. The paper said that a US Air Force C-135 electronic eavesdropping plane was involved in 'flying at the edge of Libyan airspace'."

Jonathan Bearman, a British journalist, wrote one of the most accurate assessments of Libya. About the incident of 19 August he says:

"The collision finally came in August. A giant battle formation from the Sixth Fleet, led by a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, *Nimitz*, sailed into the Gulf of Sirte to conduct further exercises specifically authorised by the White House. On 19 August, the Libyans responded by sending up two SU-22 bombers to monitor movements. Without warning, both planes were attacked and shot down by F-14s from the carrier *Nimitz*'s Black Ace Squadron. Subsequent American claims that the action was pre-emptive are belied by the Pentagon's own admissions that the Libyan pilots had received no orders, transmitted by radio, to open fire on the American planes or fleet. Had the Libyans wanted to engage the Americans, they would more likely have despatched MiG or Mirage fighters.

"All the evidence to emerge since has pointed to deliberate American provocation. Before the incident occurred, the Pentagon warned that the exercises would be held in a 3,200-square-mile zone. The Libyans appear to have acted when the F-14s exceeded this range. That much was revealed during a press conference aboard the *Nimitz* on 24 August, when Vice-Admiral Rowden admitted that the clash had occurred outside the designated area. Adding to his words, Rear Admiral James E. Service said: 'About the closest we came was about 25 miles to their coast.' Previously, the American command had insisted that the incident arose some 60 miles out, within the declared zone." (*Qadhafi's Libya*, Zed Books, London, UK)

#### Re: THE LONDON EMBASSY SIEGE

The Libyans have always maintained there was never any such secret message granting authorisation for their London Embassy to shoot at the demonstrators in April 1984.

Libya's external security agency claims that the Israelis were manufacturing radio messages to be conveniently intercepted by Western sources and used as evidence of Colonel Qadhafi's 'crazy terrorist behaviour'. Interestingly, this is covered in detail in *The Other Side of Deception* by Victor Ostrovsky, an ex-Mossad (Israeli Intelligence) agent.

More obviously, though, why would the Libyan leader authorise the Libyans in the London Embassy to shoot on the demonstrators? Given all that had transpired under the Reagan administration, he knew that this would invite a severe reaction by the West against Libya. Nothing was to be gained for Libya by shooting a few paid *provocateurs*, but such an incident would, and did, cement the image of Colonel Qadhafi as a 'madman'.

In the days and months leading up to April 1984, the Libyans in the UK were subject to widespread harassment. Libyans studying in the UK were subjected to detention, house searches and other harassment. Just prior to the April shooting, Libya issued a statement to the British press to the effect that "daily, we receive telephone calls from our students and trainees, saying that the British police search them and harass them and take arbitrary measures against them".

(Further information on Libya can be obtained from the Libyan Arab Cultural Centre, PO Box 373, Brunswick, Vic. 3056, Australia.

E-mail: [jamahir@peg.apc.org](mailto:jamahir@peg.apc.org) Web: <http://www.peg.apc.org/~jamahir>

is the rationale of someone with a well-developed sense of political reality.

After the shooting, Brittan immediately ordered an investigation—which has remained under lock and key ever since. Not long afterwards, sordid stories began to circulate amongst the British media that the Home Secretary had unusual sexual appetites. The rumours were fed to the satirical magazine, *Private Eye*, whose editors recognised the handiwork of the security service and refused to publish the allegations. However, within a year, Leon Brittan was forced from office for his part in the Westland helicopter debacle.

With Western European objections so neatly taken care of, Qadhafi's demonisation went into full gear. The anachronistic Bedouin was rapidly elevated from 'useful' to 'primary' Middle Eastern 'scapegoat'. At the same time, as a result of the Libyan bombing, European governments learned just how hard the US was prepared to play in pursuit of domestic politics and wider foreign policy. Tarring Qadhafi as the world's 'bad boy' suited the selfish interests of the political power elite in the US and was an added bonus when other illegal CIA Middle East 'covert ops' went belly-up. One such operation was the CIA-protected heroin pipeline operating from the Middle East to the USA.

#### CRACKS IN THE MIDDLE-EAST DRUGS PIPELINE

A recurring problem for President Reagan was his inability to rescue the US hostages held in Lebanon by HizbAllah. Hanging like a dark cloud over his otherwise successful term of office, the hostage problem was turned over to Lt Colonel Oliver North to resolve. North, a medium-ranked military officer with close personal ties to the CIA's Bill Casey, was the administration's global "Mr Fixit". He, in turn, called on the services of his old friend, Monzur al-Kassar—a Syria-born 'big time' narcotics and arms trafficker. Earlier, the Syrian had assisted North in his time of need by brokering a large shipment of weapons to the CIA-backed Nicaraguan Contras. It earned him a lot of kudos inside the administration.

Lebanon's Beqa'a Valley is a fertile and productive area specially suited to growing opium poppies. Rif'at al-Asad, the brother of Syria's President Hafiz al-Asad, was widely known to have been in charge of Syria's narcotics enterprise. As the "Supremo" of the Beqa'a Valley's massive opium industry, he was also a paid 'asset' of the CIA and was being 'groomed' to succeed his elder brother as President. He was

also an extremely close friend of al-Kassar. It is widely believed that the influx of 30,000 Syrian troops into the Beqa'a Valley during the 1980s had as much to do with protecting the lucrative opium fields as with separating Lebanon's warring factions.

Al-Kassar agreed to negotiate on behalf of the US for the release of the US hostages. His side of the deal was to get an agreement that the US would protect the Syrian drugs pipeline that shipped through Frankfurt airport to the USA. The CIA allegedly established a group, known as "CIA One", which would oversee and protect the drugs route. If publicly discovered, the response was to say that the 'protected' drugs shipments were part of a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) 'sting' operation, dedicated to tracking distribution networks inside the USA.

Unknown to North and his cohorts, there was also a secret five-man DIA team working in Lebanon. The team, headed by Major Charles "Tiny" McKee, was independently tasked with locating and rescuing the US hostages. During the course of his work, McKee stumbled across al-Kassar's CIA One-protected heroin network. Reporting his 'discovery' to CIA HQ at Langley, and outraged at the lack of response, McKee booked his team on a flight home. At this point, al-Kassar learned of McKee's activities and was also informed of his flight plans. Anxious that McKee would put a stop to his activities, he contacted his CIA One handlers who, in turn, communicated with their 'control' in Washington.

#### CONSPIRACY ON THE LOCKERBIE TRAIL

Against this insidious backdrop, other, unrelated, covert plans were being hatched. Following the July 1988 shoot-down of an Iranian Airbus by the US Navy battlecruiser *Vincennes*, hard-line Iranian ayatollahs demanded swift retaliation for the 290 lives lost. They hired the Syria-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, General Command (PFLP-GC), for a tit-for-tat attack. Led by Ahmed Jibril, and with a US\$10 million Iranian bounty, the PFLP-GC searched for a suitable target. An expert at bombing aircraft, Jibril soon learned of al-Kassar's Frankfurt-based dope pipeline and persuaded al-Kassar to place a bomb inside the heroin-laden suitcase. Pan Am Flight 103 was scheduled for destruction.

Meanwhile, Germany's Federal Police, the Bundeskriminalamt (BKA), received a warning that a bomb was to be substituted for the dope shipment aboard Flight 103. They alerted CIA One, who passed the information on to their Stateside 'control'. The reply came back: "Don't worry about it. Don't stop it. Let it go."

On 21 December 1988, Pan Am's Jumbo 747, "Maid of the Seas", exploded high above the Scottish village of Lockerbie. All 259 passengers perished. A further 11 people died as wreckage from the aircraft hurtled down to earth.

Within hours, a host of CIA agents arrived at the crash scene. It is thought that the CIA search team arrived via helicopter from a US Special Forces facility located at Machrihanish, on the Mull of Kintyre.<sup>5</sup> The speed of their arrival suggests they had foreknowledge of the bombing. In any case, the CIA agents, dressed in Pan

Am overalls, set about ransacking the crash sight in a desperate search for incriminating evidence. For two days they searched for the luggage of the dead DIA team and frantically sought the suitcase containing the heroin shipment. One suitcase was recovered, flown out and later returned empty, to be 'rediscovered' by the forensic team scouring the wreckage. It belonged to Major Charles McKee. Curiously, one unidentified body was snatched from the wreckage and never returned.

Les Coleman believes it would be wrong to blame the CIA *in toto* for the Lockerbie atrocity. Intelligence outfits do not work as cohesively as many outsiders believe. There is a great deal of rivalry and fragmentation at work. DCI Bill Casey had plenty of detractors inside the monolith he directed. Some worked hard, feeding their favourite journalists with unattributed information that was designed to damage Casey and, hopefully, lead to his removal. Others were known to operate as part of a small and secretive core that has variously been identified as "the Enterprise" or "the Octopus". The latter is said to operate with organised crime and leading politicians who covertly traffic in guns, drugs, laundered money and any other commodity that can generate massive profits. Whether the proceeds of these illegal activities are siphoned back into the 'black' budgets of the CIA, or fill the pockets of participants, or both, isn't entirely clear.

Despite Coleman's caution, the CIA's infamous history—stretching over 50 years—clearly suggests that US foreign policy and private gain 'coalesce' into a game plan that benefits various parties. Some 'intelligence watchers' point to the wealth of some long-term CIA officers and ask how they amassed their fortunes based on salaries of US\$60,000 a year. It is a valid question that can equally be addressed to former and serving politicians and senior government bureaucrats.

#### CORRUPTION BEHIND THE ANTI-LIBYA CAMPAIGN

By attributing the responsibility for Lockerbie to Qadhafi, the US administration was following in the well-worn footsteps of many predecessors in similar situations. It's a technique as old as the hills. Caught virtually red-handed in massive illegality, the first thought is to cast around for a suitable scapegoat.

As Lester Coleman said when I first spoke to him, Qadhafi is an easy target. Independently-minded and unwilling to align himself with US Middle Eastern policy, he became a target of the US. His past bankrolling of 'terrorist' causes—and one-time expansionism—also did him no favours. It's a case of, "If you're not for us, you're against us."

Sitting on vast reserves of crude oil is also a significant factor for Libya's treatment at the hands of the US. The fact that most of this oil flows to Western European oil companies clearly doesn't cut much ice with the US. Rivalry between the European and US business elite is as intense as ever. US oil companies can't be pleased that they are effectively out of the picture. In that sense

**Sitting on vast reserves of crude oil is also a significant factor for Libya's treatment at the hands of the US.**

**The fact that most of this oil flows to Western European oil companies clearly doesn't cut much ice with the US.**

**Rivalry between the European and US business elite is as intense as ever.**

Continued on page 92

Continued from page 37

Qadhafi was, as Les Coleman said, "an easy hit".

Perhaps more telling than anything else, British support for the US anti-Libya 'campaign' clearly demonstrates the moral and ethical bankruptcy of the British political process. That those in power manipulated the British judicial system and continue to lie to the families of the Lockerbie victims is sinister enough. That they not only tolerated but connived in the murder of an innocent woman police officer—to further American political designs—says more than any party political manifesto could begin to utter. All power corrupts, but the continued exercise of raw, unadulterated power of this magnitude is the very antithesis of a participatory democracy.

In researching this article, I spoke with many different individuals. Some agreed to speak on the record, whilst others requested anonymity. One well-placed and knowledgeable source summed up the situation with these words: "There is no democracy. There is no free press." That source remains a leading Member of Parliament.

#### Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> Goddard, Donald, with Coleman, Lester K., *Trail of the Octopus: From Beirut to Lockerbie—Inside the DIA*, Bloomsbury, UK, 1993.

<sup>2</sup> This is not really surprising when you consider what Iran has been involved with in 1996: the bombing of TWA 800; the deadly explosion that rocked the US barracks in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia; and the fatal stabbing of a US diplomat. (Source: *Defence & Foreign Affairs Strategic Policy*, UK, August 1996.)

<sup>3</sup> See Bob Woodward's *Veil: The Secret Wars of the CIA, 1981-87* (Headline Books, London, 1987) for comprehensive background on Bill Casey and his role in Libyan destabilisation. Casey died in 1987.

<sup>4</sup> Information provided by the Institute of Petroleum. The breakdown is as follows: Italy, 42.2%; Germany, 21%; Spain, 11%; France, 3.4%. "Others" account for 22.3%.

<sup>5</sup> This was the location of the 1994 helicopter 'crash'—alleged to have been an accident—that killed a fistful of high-ranking Military, Intelligence, Special Branch and Police officers. Officially said to be over-flying the Mull of Kintyre en route to Aberdeen, the chopper's destination was actually the Machrihanish Special Forces base, home of US Seals. Never satisfactorily answered was why so many important officers flouted standing orders by travelling together. All the deceased were IRA anti-terrorist spe-

cialists. Within a year, the much-touted US-sponsored "IRA Peace Process" was announced. A Special Forces source told me a week after the 'accident' that there was something about the crash that didn't stack up.

#### About the Author:

David Guyatt was born and educated in Hampshire, England. His career in the stock-broking, investment and banking industries spanned 28 years, the last 12 of which he spent as a director and treasurer of a major British bank. There he gained insight into the world of international weapons financing and was familiar with all aspects of international capital, foreign exchange and money markets, with global trade finance his specialisation.

For the last seven years, David has pursued a career as a freelance writer/researcher, contributing to a number of screenplays, novels, documentaries and feature articles. He is currently researching high-tech, anti-personnel, electromagnetic weapons systems and their focus within military/intelligence 'black' mind-control/behaviour-modification programmes.

His other in-depth research project at present centres on the structure, power and hidden influence of elitist groups and interlinking tax-exempt foundations, including RIIA (Chatham House), the Council on Foreign Relations, Trilateralists, Bilderbergers, the shadowy *Cercle*, the Rockefellers, Brothers Fund, Ford, Carnegie, Hoover, IMF, the World Bank, *ad nauseam*...